

REMARKS

Claims 1-19, 21-23, 28, 29, 32, and 33 are cancelled.

Claims 20, 24-27 are allowed. Claims 36-37 are allowable if rewritten.

Claim 34 has been amended to depend from allowable claim 36.

Claim 35 depends from claim 34 and should be allowable for that reason.

Claims 30-31 depend from allowable claim 20, and should be allowable for that reason.

The Examiner's comments and thoughts have been carefully considered, including the new grounds for rejection. Based upon the same and the details below favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested. The application is now believed to be in condition for allowance based upon the status of the action. No new matter has been added. Support for the amendments is found in the original claims, specification, and drawings.

1. Rejection of Claims 32-37 under 35 USC §112, first paragraph.

Claim 32 is noted as being rejected because "*first member...being on said inner surface of said concave shape.*" is ambiguous. A suggestion is noted that 'sleeve' would be agreeable to the Examiner, and Applicants are grateful for the suggestion. It is presumed that dependent claims 36-37 are rejected under 35 USC 112 solely because they depend from independent claim 32, and for no other reason – if this is not the case notice is earnestly requested.

The contents of claim 32 have been amended to address this matter, and this amendment is now incorporated into the allowable claims 36-37, as noted in the above amendments. As a result, it is respectfully proposed that the §112 rejection has been overcome and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

2. Rejection of Claims 29, 32, 33-35, and allowability of claims 36-37.

Claim 29 stands canceled in the current filing and is therefore no longer of review.

Claim 36 is amended to include the contents of claim 32 and 33, and should be allowable for that reason. All contents of claims 32 and 33 are incorporated into claim 36. Claim 37 depends from allowable claim 36, and should be allowable for that reason. Claims 34 and 35 have been re-directed to depend from allowable claim 36, and should be allowable for that reason.

In view of the above, remaining claims 34-37 should be allowable as they stand and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

3. Claims 20, 24-27, and claims 30-31.

Applicants appreciate the notice that claims 20, 24-27 are in allowable condition.

Claim 20 is an acting independent claim from which claims 24, 25, 26, and 27 depend.

Dependent claims 30 and 31 also depend from the acknowledged allowable independent claim 20, and would therefore be allowable for that reason alone. Notice to this effect is urgently solicited.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be fully in proper form for allowance and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. Applicants propose respectfully that they have responded to each and every applicable rejection and objection raised by the Examiner in this action and no identified matter remains outstanding.

While all required fees are submitted herewith, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 10-0100. No new matter has been added.

In Re Application of Christoph KURTH

If the Examiner would like to discuss the present application, claims, amendments or other matters, Applicant would appreciate a courtesy call to discuss placing the application in condition for allowance.

Early and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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